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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
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Brussels, November 1993.
RA/ml/3742

Ms. Fatima Proença
Comissao Permanente das
ONGD's Portuguesas
Rua Visconde Valmor, 35, 3o D
1000 - Lisboa
Portugal

Dear Ms. Proença,

Mr. Arndell received your letter of 8 November on return from mission recently.

The first phase of the EC-Indonesia forest programme was approved by the Asia and Latin America (ALA) Committee of EC Member States and was the object of a Financing Decision, in December 1992. It is designed to support the activities of the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry to conserve and sustainably manage the Indonesian forest - one of the main last tropical forest domains on Earth.

In answer to your questions, I can say that :

- There is no activity in East Timor
- The project funds : the second phase of the national forest inventory and mapping programme; part of the second phase of the forest radio communications programme, and a fire prevention and control component.

  I would stress the importance of this programme in helping to conserve the Indonesian forest; which is currently being cut and burnt at the rate of over 1 million ha per year.

- Only the forest inventory component could relate to Timor.

In the meantime, let me thank you for the information you sent me with your letter.

Yours sincerely,

Endymion Wilkinson
Head of Southeast Asia Unit

CC. : E. Fossati
Le Naelou